

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-14 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PM-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07

DRC-01 /153 W

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P R 050700Z OCT 74

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0478

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0288

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: BILATERALS REPORTED AT OCTOBER 3

1974 AD HOC GROUP MEETING

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT ITS OCTOBER 3 MEETING, CHAIRED BY THE ACTING GREEK REP (NEZERITIS), THE AD HOC GROUP (AHG) HEARD REPORTS OF BILATERALS IN WHICH THE POLISH REP (STRULAK) EXPRESSED EASTERN DESIRE TO REDUCE THE FREQUENCY OF PLENARIES AND TO FIX DATES FOR THE CHRISTMAS RECESS, THE BULGARIAN REP (DICHEV) SUG-

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GESTED EXTENDING THE CHRISTMAS RECESS UNTIL THE END

OF CSCE AND THE SOVIET REP (KHLESTOV) INQUIRED REGARDING THE TIMETABLE FOR BUNESWEHR RESTRUCTURING PLANS. ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) REPORTED GROMYKO'S EXCHANGE IN NEW YORK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MORO, IN WHICH GROMYKO HAD TERMED THE COMMON CEILING UNACCEPTABLE, HAD CALLED FOR THE WESTERN EUROPEANS TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO REDUCTIONS, HAD THREATENED TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF US BASES AND NUCLEAR COMPONENTS IN EUROPE IF THE WEST CONTINUED TO INSIST ON REDUCTION OF A SOVIET TANK ARMY, AND HAD MADE CONNECTION BETWEEN CSCE AND MBFR BY SAYING MBFR WOULD PROFIT BY PRIOR SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF CSCE. THE GROUP DEFERRED UNTIL NEXT WEEK A DISCUSSION OF LINKAGE AND POSSIBLE REVERSE LINKAGE ISSUES. OTHER BUSINESS AT OCTOBER 3 AHG MEETING IS COVERED BY SEPTTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. BELGIAN REP (ADRIAENSSEN), REPORTED THAT POLISH REP (STRULAK) HAD SUGGESTED FIXING THE DATES OF DECEMBER 12 - JANUARY 16 FOR THE CHRISTMAS RECESS AND HAD INSISTED STRONGLY ON REDUCING PLENARIES TO ONE EVERY TWO WEEKS. ANDRIAENSSEN REPLIED THAT IT WAS TOO EARLY TO FIX THE DATES FOR THE CHRISTMAS RECESS AND THAT THE WESTERN SIDE INTENDED TO SPEAK AT THE NEXT PLENARY ON OCTOBER 10. IF THE EAST DID NOT INTEND TO SPEAK AT THE FOLLOWING PLENARY ON OCTOBER 17, THEY SHOULD SO INFORM THE WESTERN SIDE IN ADVANCE.

3. FRG DEP REP (HOFMANN) COMMENTED THAT STRULAK'S REMARKS SEEMED TO FIT INTO A PATTERN ALSO VISIBLE IN BULGARIAN REP DICHEV'S SUGGESTION TO AN FRG DEL OFF FOR AN EVEN LONGER RECESS. DICHEV HAD SAID IT MIGHT BE A GOOD IDEA "TO RECESSS UNTIL THE END OF CSCE." HOFMANN ASSUMED DICHEV WAS SUGGESTING THAT A CHRISTMAS BREAK BE EXTENDED TO THE END OF CSCE, BUT HOFMANN NOTED THAT DICHEV HAD NOT SPECIFIED A STARTING DATE FOR SUCH A RECESS. COMMENT: SOVIET DEL OFF KUTOVOI TOOK A SIMILAR LINE OCTOBER 1 WITH US DEL OFF, SAYING HE WAS INCREASINGLY BORED WITH THE NEGOTIATIONS, EXPECTED NO PROGRESS (OR NEW SOVIET

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INSTRUCTIONS) IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND HENCE MIGHT SEEK ANOTHER ASSIGNMENT. END COMMENT.

4. US DEP REP SUGGESTED THAT THE DATES OF THE CHRISTMAS RECESS SHOULD NOT BE SET UNTIL CLOSE TO THAT TIME AND THE ALLIES SHOULD STEADFASTLY REFUSE TO DISCUSS RECESSES AT THIS TIME. THE EAST SHOULD BE TOLD THAT IT IS UNBUSINESSLIKE TO SET DATES FOR A

RECESS BEFORE DOING ANY WORK AT ALL. IF THE EAST WISHES TO ENGAGE IN FOOTDRAGGING OR TO FILL THE NEGOTIATIONS WITH DEAD SPACE, US DEP REP COMMENTED, THEN IT SHOULD BE MADE CLEAR THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY WAS THEIRS. THE GROUP AGREED THAT ADRIAENSSEN SHOULD IF ASKED REPEAT HIS EARLIER REPLY TO STRULAK, AS THE CONSIDERED VIEW OF THE ALLIES. ADRIAENSSEN SAID HE SHARED US DEP REP'S POSITION AND HAD EXPRESSED SURPRISE TO STRULAK IN VIEW OF THE LATTER'S COMMENTS TO HIM EARLIER THIS ROUND CALLING FOR A QUICK START.

5. ITALIAN REP (CAGIATI) REPORTED THAT BROMYKO HAD MET WITH ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MORO IN NEW YORK ON SEPTEMBER 30 AND HAD MENTIONED THAT THOUGH THE ATMOSPHERE IN MBFR WAS NOT BAD, PROGRESS WAS SLOW. GROMYKO HAD SAID THAT A NEW APPROACH WAS NEEDED BECAUSE THE WESTERN CONCEPT OF THE COMMON CEILING WAS UNACCEPTABLE AND A SINGLE COMPONENT OF ARMED FORCES (I.E. GROUND FORCES) COULD NOT BE SINGLED OUT FOR TREATMENT. GROMYKO SAID THAT IF THE US INSISTED ON REDUCTION OF SOVIET TANKS, THE EAST WOULD RAISE THE QUESTION OF US BASES IN EUROPE. GROMYKO ALSO HAD SAID THAT MOSCOW COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE WILLINGNESS OF THE WEST EUROPEANS TO ACCEPT A NO-INCREASE PROVISION BUT NOT TO COMMIT THEMSELVES TO REDUCTIONS. GROMYKO HAD STATED THAT A SATISFACTORY OUTCOME OF CSCE WOULD HAVE A FAVORABLE EFFECT ON MBFR.

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S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0288

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

6. FRG REP (BEHREND) REPORTED THAT SOVIET REP
KHLESTOV HAD TAKEN HIM ASIDE AT THE OCTOBER 3
PLENARY TO SAY THAT THE VISIT OF FRG CHANCELLOR
SCHMIDT TO MOSCOW IN EARLY OCTOBER WOULD PROVIDE A
GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MBFR. KHLESTOV HAD
SAID, HALF-JOKINGLY, "WE WILL GET YOU TO REDUCE
FROM THE OUTSET YET," IMPLYING THIS WOULD BE SOVIET
MOTIF WITH SCHMIDT DURING VISIT. KHLESTOV ASKED
WHETHER THE RESTRUCTURING OF THE BUNDESWEHR WOULD
BE COMPLETED WITHIN TWO YEARS. BEHREND REPLIED:
"NO NOT UNTIL 1979 -- LONG AFTER THE MBFR NEGO-
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TIATIONS ARE OVER." KHLESTOV LOOKED UNHAPPY.
BEHREND SUGGESTED THAT THE EAST EVIDENTLY WAS
WAITING FOR INTERNAL PRESSURES TO BUILD UP ON THE
ALLIES.

7. IN COMMENTING ON WHAT HE TERMED SOVIET STALLING
TACTICS, CAGIATI SAID IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR THE
GROUP TO DISCUSS THE QUESTION OF A POSSIBLE MBFR/CSCE
"REVERSE LINKAGE," AS WAS RAISED THIS WEEK BY THE US AT
NATO. US DEP REP COMMENTED THAT UNTIL ALLIED CAPITALS DECIDE
HOW TO ACT IN THIS MATTER, DISCUSSION OF IT IN VIENNA WOULD HAVE
TO BE LIMITED. RESOR

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